Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Great Gatsby Graphic Organizer- Color and Connotation

**Directions:** This is a verbal, critical thinking, and writing assignment where you will fill in the four boxes on your paper. Each box has a discussion question to lead your discussion with your peers. After much thought and discussion, please record your opinion in the box. This will help you apply your preconceptions about color to your critical thinking skills to prepare you for the Great Gatsby.  
**Relevant English-Language Arts Content Standards**: 1.2. Distinguish between the denotative and connotative meanings of words and interpret the connotative power of words.  
**Source:** *Content Area Literacy; An Integrated Approach*

Completed Sample

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| Write down words that are associated with your group’s color. Next, write down words that your group comes up with that are variations of the color, meaning or types of the color. Last, write down your own opinion of what your color reminds you of. There is no right answer. Draw from your own experiences.  Variations of the word blue that my team came up with were: light blue, teal, indigo, robin’s egg, cerulean, sapphire, and navy.  Other things that blue reminded our group of was: blue (sad), the ocean, calm, cold, freezing, barren, snow, depression, and anxiety.  When I think of blue, I think of the words cold, calm and relaxed. | Use this space to write down what you think are complementary and contrasting colors to your assigned color. What are the meanings and connotation of those colors? Which one (the contrasting or the complementary colors) do you feel are closer related to your assigned color?  Our group decided that complementary colors to blue are the “cool” colors that we know as: purple, green, and teal. They are all cool types of colors and are closer related to blue than any other.  We think that contrasting colors would be orange, yellow and red. These are more commonly known as hot colors. These contrasting colors are supposed to be opposites. Someone who is “calm cool and collected” would be exactly opposite of someone described as hot-headed (eager to jump to conclusions). |
| How does the feeling of your color change when it is combined with other colors? Give specific examples.  The first example that we thought of was red, white and blue. When the color blue is combined and showed with the colors red and white, it no longer has the connotation of calm or cold, it changes to representative colors of a nation. The French flag also demonstrates this. When combined together each color (red, white, and blue) is symbolic of liberty, equality, and fraternity. | Make predictions here on how you believe that colors could be used in the novel.  Our group believes that the author will use colors to describe not only the settings, but also the people in the novel. We can only guess that like the meanings that we associate with these colors, the author will also use. We think he will use specific colors every time he describes certain characters in the book. The color could also be used to help the mood. |